

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 H-02 NSC-05 SS-15 MC-02 IO-10

XMB-02 /086 W

----- 117864

R 291650Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 970

DOD WASHDC

OSAF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

AFSC ANDREWS AFB

ASD WPAFB OH/YP

USMISSION NATO

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MINIMIZE TO BRUSSELS CONSIDERED

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS DA

SUBJ: LIGHTWEIGHT FIGHTER: MOVES TO OBTAIN PARLIAMENTARY
APPROVAL OF PURCHASE

REF: COPENHAGEN 1528

1) THE FIRST READING OF A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TO PROCUREMENT
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OF THE F-16 IS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW (MAY 30) IN PARLIAMENT.

THE RESOLUTION WILL PROVIDE AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE 58 AIRCRAFT. THE DANES ARE COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO BUY THE 48 AIRCRAFT NOW (PROVIDED THE CONSORTIUM HOLDS TOGETHER) AND TAKING AN OPTION WHICH CAN BE EXERCISED UNTIL JUNE 1978 FOR THE OTHER TEN AT THE SAME PRICE. IF THE OPTION IS NOT EXERCISED THE PURCHASE PRICE FOR THE 48 AIRCRAFT IS SUBJECT TO RENEGOTIATION. A COMMERCE MINISTRY SOURCE TOLD US THAT THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO EXERCISE THE OPTION "SOONER THAN LATER" AND THAT THE TEN-PLANE REDUCTION IS A COSMETIC SOP TO THE RADICAL PARTY.

2) AFTER THE FIRST READING, THE RESOLUTION WILL BE REFERRED TO THE PARLIAMENTARY DEFENSE COMMITTEE WHICH WILL ALSO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO THE "FINAL" VIGGEN OFFER. DETAILS OF PROPOSALS BY THE SWEDISH FINANCIER, MARCUS WALLENBERG. WILL BE STUDIED IN CONNECTION WITH AN EVALUATION BY THE DANISH MINISTRY OF COMMERCE THAT FOUND THE AMERICAN OFFSET OFFER THE MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO DENMARK, FOLLOWED BY THE SWEDISH AND FRENCH, IN THAT ORDER. THE MOTOR FORCES BEHIND THIS NEW CONSIDERATION OF THE VIGGEN OFFER IS APPARENTLY A SMALL GROUP OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARLIAMENTARIANS WHO ARE ANTI-NATO AND ANTI-US AND ARE ATTRACTED BY CONSIDERATIONS OF "NORDIC UNITY" AND WHAT APPEARS TO THEM TO BE THE SUPERIOR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY THE VIGGEN.

3) COMMENT: WE SHARE THE OPTIMISM OF THE DANISH PROPONENTS OF THE F-16 THAT NEITHER OF THESE MOVES REPRESENTS A REAL CHALLENGE TO DENMARK'S TIMELY PURCHASE OF 58 F-16'S IF THE BELGIANS REMAIN IN THE CONSORTIUM.
CROWE

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Message Attributes

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